

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, IT

SUBJECT: US-ITALY ENERGY WORKING GROUP (EWG) ACTIVITIES

REF: ROME 9924; ITALIAN MEMORANDUM TRANSMITTED 6/24/76

1. ERDA AND NRC HAVE CAREFULLY REVIEWED THE PROPOSED VISITS AND PROJECTS OUTLINED BY ITALIANS IN AREAS OF REPROCESSING, WASTE MANAGEMENT, AND NRC LICENSING AND OFFER THE FOLLOWING INTERIM COMMENTS.

2. REPROCESSING: AS ERDA HAS INFORMED THE ITALIANS IN THE PAST, IT CONTINUES TO BE PRECLUDED FROM DISCUSSING WITH THEM SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF FUEL REPROCESSING TECHNOLOGY. ERDA STATES THAT DUE TO OVERALL NON-PROLIFERA-
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TION CONCERNS THE US PRESENTLY HAS THE QUESTION OF

INTERNATIONAL ROLE IN REPROCESSING UNDER INTENSIVE STUDY AND THAT PENDING THE COMPLETION OF ITS EVALUATION ON POSSIBLE INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION, ERDA IS UNFORTUNATELY NOT PREPARED TO DISCUSS REPROCESSING TECHNOLOGY. AS AGREED, HOWEVER, IN THE JOINT STATEMENT SUMMARIZING EWG ACTIVITIES, ERDA WOULD BE WILLING IN THE CONTEXT OF PERIODIC BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS TO BRIEF THE ITALIANS

REGARDING THE EVOLVING US POLICIES IN THE FIELD OF REPROCESSING. FURTHERMORE, AS REQUESTED BY THE ITALIANS, ERDA IS WILLING TO ATTEMPT TO ARRANGE FOR A VISIT BY AN ITALIAN GROUP TO THE ALLIED GENERAL NUCLEAR SERVICES (AGNS) PLANT FOR A GENERAL TOUR. REGARDING ITALIAN INTEREST IN VISITING ERDA'S SAVANNAH RIVER REPROCESSING PLANT, ERDA QUESTIONS THE UTILITY OR RATIONALE FOR A VISIT AT PRESENT TIME AS LONG AS ERDA IS PRECLUDED FROM DISCUSSING THE SPECIFIC ELEMENTS OF REPROCESSING TECHNOLOGY.

3. WASTE MANAGEMENT: ERDA STATES THAT IT WOULD BE PREPARED TO RECEIVE AN ITALIAN TEAM AT ERDA HEADQUARTERS TO DISCUSS SPENT FUEL TRANSPORTATION, SPENT FUEL STORAGE AND WASTE MANAGEMENT.

4. NRC LICENSING: THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION CONFIRMS THAT IT WILL FAVORABLY CONSIDER THE ASSIGNMENT OF ITALIAN TECHNICAL PERSONNEL WITHIN NRC FUEL CYCLE LICENSING GROUPS. ROBINSON

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